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CGS-1216-63

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29 August 1963

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD****SUBJECT: Requirements for U-2 Overflight  
of Sino-Indian Border**

1. I called General Carroll this morning to get his up-to-date assessment on how urgent he thought it was that we overfly the Sino-Indian border. He asked what the timing might be [redacted] and I told him that we were probably several months away from any such arrangement and said to him that the Taklih alternative would probably require our spending some of our good will with [redacted]

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2. It was General Carroll's view that timing was of the essence. Since he felt that weather conditions would shortly be propitious were the Chicom's to decide to start an attack. This and the fact that our last look at the border area was in January and that we really did not know whether a significant buildup had taken place in the interim led him to the belief that we should take the necessary steps to get the coverage by approaching the Thais.

3. Bill Bundy is on vacation until the 16th of September. Henry Rowen is on sick leave today, so I was unable to get any authoritative view from ISA.

4. Actually, the view of the CIA analysts is compatible with General Carroll's views though with perhaps a slightly lower threshold of urgency. Nevertheless, it would be my recommendation also that the Sino-Indian border does require to be covered reasonably soon.

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H. D. SHELDON

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Huntington D. Sheldon  
Acting Deputy Director (Intelligence)

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